

## **Collaborations Are Synergistic**

Mary Ann Kadooka  
*Institute for Astronomy*  
*University of Hawaii Manoa*  
2680 Woodlawn Dr., Honolulu, HI 96822  
USA  
[Kadooka@ifa.hawaii.edu](mailto:Kadooka@ifa.hawaii.edu)

Karen J. Meech  
*Institute for Astronomy*  
*University of Hawaii Manoa*  
USA

G. Jeffrey Taylor  
*Hawaii Institute for Geophysics and Planetology*  
*University of Hawaii Manoa*  
USA

Collaborations are the key to effective education and public outreach. We used the Astrobiology Exhibit from Carnegie Institution of Washington, DC as the focus of our informal and formal education effort in spring, 2005. Public libraries, community colleges, and even a shopping center displayed this exhibit on all four main islands, Oahu, Maui, Kauai and Hawaii. Public lectures were held in conjunction with this exhibit as an introduction to astrobiology for the people in Hawaii. Since the NASA Deep Impact Mission impact of Comet Tempel 1 will be visible with clear skies in Hawaii, this serves as an excellent introduction to astrobiology for our communities and is being highlighted with this exhibit.

In addition to the lectures, teacher workshops were held to promote astrobiology in the classroom. The sharing of time on the 2.0 meter Faulkes Telescope is fostering collaborations between teachers and students in the United Kingdom and Hawaii on comet research projects. Also, the polycommunication system has been an excellent venue for follow-up educational sessions between Hawaii, the UK and Iceland (the country of one of our NAI collaborators).